AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) A rack-and-pinion electro-steering system, comprising:

a housing;

at least one thrust member/pinion pairing;

a rack extending in the housing, the rack operatively connected to the thrust member/pinion pairing; and

at least one sliding bearing arranged between the rack and the housing to guide the rack, the sliding bearing lockable by a locking geometry, the sliding bearing movable with the rack and arranged in a tooth-free region of the rack to preclude contact between the sliding bearing and the pinion.

14. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the rack-and-pinion electro-steering system is adapted to be arranged in a motor vehicle.

15. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the at least one sliding bearing includes two sliding bearings.

16. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the at least one thrust member/pinion pairing includes two pinions and one thrust member associated with each pinion, a first one of the two pinions connected to a servo side of the rack and a second one of the two pinions connected to one of (a) a sensor side of the rack and (b) a steering column.

17. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the housing is honed throughout.

18. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the housing is cylindrical and is honed throughout.

19. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is formed of plastic.

20. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is formed of a high-temperature resistant, high-performance plastic.

21. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is an injection-molded part.

22. (Currently Amended) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, further comprising one of (a) a second sliding bearing and (b) a sliding bushing substantially covering a contact area arranged between a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing and a housing part surrounding the thrust member.

23. (Currently Amended) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the one of (a) the second sliding bearing and (b) the sliding bushing is inserted into the housing part.

24. (Currently Amended) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the one of (a) the second sliding bearing and (b) the sliding bushing substantially covering the contact area is formed of plastic.

25. (Currently Amended) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the one of (a) the second sliding bearing and (b) the sliding bushing substantially covering the contact area is formed of a high-performance plastic.

26. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of plastic.

27. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of a slide-modified, high-performance plastic.

28. (Previously Presented) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of a slide-modified, high-performance injection-molded plastic.